

SHIKELLAMY SCHOOL DISTRICT  
Sunbury, Pennsylvania

**Work Session - January 7, 2016**  
Island Park Administration Center - 7:00 p.m.

A Work Session of the Shikellamy School District Board of Directors was held on Thursday, January 7, 2016 at 7:10 p.m. at the Island Park Administration Center.

Board Members present were: Mrs. Cianflone, Mr. Garman, Mrs. Garman (7:16 p.m.), Mr. Karpinski, Mr. Michaels, Mr. Shreck, Mr. Stepp, Dr. Walter and Mrs. Wiest

Others Present:

- Attorney Michael Kula, Solicitor
- Mr. Ned Sodrck, Acting District Superintendent
- Mr. Brett Misavage, Assistant Interim Superintendent
- Mrs. Abbey Walshaw-Wertz, Director of Education
- Mrs. Stephanie Michaels, Director of Special Education
- Mr. David Sinopoli, Business Manager
- Dr. Mary Murphy-Kahn, Shikellamy Middle Principal
- Mrs. Angela Farronato, Oaklyn Elementary Principal
- Mr. Matthew Mitchell, Food Service Director
- Mr. Douglas Benick, Director of Facilities
- Ms. Kelly Cress, Substitute Board Recording Secretary

**PUBLIC COMMENT**

There was no public comment.

**NEW COMMUNITY COLLEGE**

Mrs. Walshaw-Wertz introduced Lenare Adams and Kathy Specht to speak about the Susquehanna Valley Community Education Project. Classes will be starting in February and March with 6 week mini courses being offered at the Shikellamy High School. Students can find the enrollment form and register for courses online at [www.newcommunitycollege.org](http://www.newcommunitycollege.org).

**MIDDLE SCHOOL UPDATE**

Mr. Gary Wolfe gave an update on the middle school project. The project is moving along nicely. There is a small setback due to the cold weather and the project is scheduled to finish up mid-June rather than mid-May. Mr. Walter asked if the neighbors along Prince Street are still having water problems and Mr. Wolfe responded that he hasn't heard of any more complaints since the springs were redirected into the drains.

### **FOOD SERVICE DISCUSSION**

Mr. Lyle Karrick from Nutrition Inc. spoke regarding their food service program. They are contracted with over 170 school districts in Pennsylvania, with some of the local schools being Shamokin, Line Mountain, Mount Carmel, and Danville. He discussed the menu options and choices the students would have at both the elementary and secondary level. He also spoke about the RFP process and the time frame from the beginning to the end, which is about 6-8 weeks. Mrs. Wiest inquired if additional kitchen equipment needs would be addressed in the RFP, which Mr. Karrick responded yes. Discussion ensued and it was unanimously agreed upon to add the RFP to the voting agenda on January 14, 2016.

### **SUMMER WORK SCHEDULE**

Mr. Misavage proposed the district try 4-day workweeks this summer as a way to save the district money. After speaking with other local school districts who work 4 day weeks, the district has the opportunity to save anywhere from \$10,000-\$35,000 in utility costs. It is proposed that we try it this summer and if the district doesn't feel it was worth the savings then we will go back to 5-day workweeks for the 2016-17 school year. The board is in agreement if the unions agree to the change.

### **MIDDLE SCHOOL CURRICULUM –**

Dr. Murphy-Kahn spoke in regards to her vision for the 2016-17 programming at the new middle school. She proposed bringing back foreign language (Spanish), health and increasing band to full time. Discussion ensued regarding additional personnel to which Dr. Murphy-Kahn replied additional staff would be required for the additional courses.

### **REVIEW 2016/17 BUDGET –**

Mr. Sinopoli discussed the preliminary budget for the 2016-17 school year. The estimates in the preliminary budget are heavy because we want to maximize all the referendum exceptions we are eligible for. At this point we qualify to raise taxes to 90.5 mils if we chose to. There is a 2.7 million dollar increase from last years budget. Mr. Sinopoli will be meeting with principals prior to April to discuss building budgets and program and staff changes.

### **REVIEW PROPOSED REVISIONS / ELIMINATIONS–**

Reviewed Board Policy 918 – Title I Parent/Guardian Involvement and Board Policy 549.1 – Retirement Incentive. It was agreed to add Policy 918 for a first reading and vote to eliminate Policy 549.1.

### **REVIEW 2016-17 SUN AREA TECHNICAL BUDGET –**

Mr. Sinopoli reviewed the SUN Tech budget for 2016/17 school year. He explained the budget is very bare boned. Overall the budget is down approximately \$64,000 from last year. Shikellamy's portion of the budget is down approximately 4.7%, which is a savings of approximately \$54,000 from last year.

**REVIEW REGULAR BOARD MEETING ACTION ITEMS -**

The regular board meeting agenda was reviewed. Mrs. Wiest will distribute the updated committee lists to board members.

**ADMINISTRATORS -**

Mr. Benick would like to solicit donations for the new middle school scoreboard. He inquired if the names of area business that donate could be listed on the top and bottom of the scoreboard. The board agreed as long as the donations are coming from reputable local businesses and that it be limited to five businesses.

**ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 9:20 p.m.